

Israeli Meretz party condemns expulsion

TEL AVIV (R) — A key Israeli leftist party has condemned its leaders' support for the expulsion of 415 Palestinians calling the move a "gross violation of human rights." Meretz cabinet ministers had called Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's decision to expel alleged Hamas activists "a necessary evil" on Thursday after the bound and blindfolded Palestinians were driven to Lebanon in Israel's largest peace-time expulsion. Hours later, the Meretz party council termed the expulsions "a gross violation of human rights and the principles of international law." Deputy Agriculture Minister Walid Sadek said on Friday. In the past, Meretz, a key partner in Mr. Rabin's coalition government, had spearheaded Israeli opposition to the expulsions. "I urge Rabin to reconsider the deportations and return the deportees immediately," Mr. Sadek, an Israeli Arab, told Reuters. Party leader and Israeli Education Minister Shulamit Aloni said she accepted the party council's condemnation but that she still backed the expulsions.

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U.N. urges lifting arms embargo for Bosnia

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The 179-nation General Assembly proposed Friday that the Security Council drop its arms embargo against Bosnia-Herzegovina, despite concern that this would hamper peace efforts. The assembly took the action on the eve of presidential elections in Serbia that could change Belgrade's policy of war with other former Yugoslav republics. The General Assembly — voting 102-0, with 57 abstentions approved a resolution that also urged the council to consider enforcing a no-fly zone over Bosnia and setting up a war crimes tribunal. It also suggested considering using "all necessary means" to stop the war in Bosnia. That could clear the way for military intervention, a drastic escalation of international efforts to bring peace.

(See related story on page 8)

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Arabs to discuss future of peace talks — PLO

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Representatives of Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Egypt will meet in Cairo to coordinate positions after the PLO decision to suspend participation in the Middle East peace talks, a PLO official said Friday.

PLO Executive Committee member Yasser Abed Rabbo told news conference in the Tunisian capital the meeting of senior representatives would take place within days.

"The date will be set by us," he said. Consultations between Arab League members were already under way and the Palestinian negotiating team would fly to Tunis for a Palestinian leadership meeting starting Saturday, he said.

Mr. Abed Rabbo appealed to the movement Hamas, which has been in conflict with the PLO, to join the talks.

"The situation needs the unity of the Palestinian people and that we put differences, if there are any, to rest," he said.

Mr. Abed Rabbo said the PLO would not return to the occupied territories until the return of the deportees to the occupied territories.

He said the PLO boycotted Thursday's session of the eighth round of peace talks to protest at the expulsions.

Senior officials at the talks called the expulsions "fatal" to the peace process.

Mr. Abed Rabbo said PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat had sent a message to Lebanese President Elias Hrawi asking the Lebanese government to bar the entry of the expelled Palestinians.

We want to bar the way to all such measures," he said.

Mr. Abed Rabbo said the Palestinian negotiating team at the peace talks had a "positive" meeting on Friday with outgoing U.S. President George Bush and Mr. Bush told the United States was against expulsions.

President-elect Bill Clinton also was concerned. We hope now will be translated into the Security Council vote," Mr. Abed Rabbo said.

The United States is looking for a way to make Israel rescind the expulsions to Arab-Israeli peace talks, he said.

We believe the government throughout the world has an obligation to the fundamental principles of human rights, the rule of law and democratic principles," said State Department spokeswoman Nancy Soderstrom.

We therefore strongly condemn the action of deportation," she said. White House Chief of Staff James Brady planned to discuss the issue with President Bush, head of the Palestinian delegation, and with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Mr. Bush administration phase of the peace talks ended Thursday with no date certain for when the talks will resume.

Although Arabs and Israelis did not discuss the expulsions, the talks, Palestinians, (Continued on page 5)

Israel expels 415 Palestinians

Expelled group stuck between Israeli and Lebanese checkpoints

MARJ AL ZOHOOR, Lebanon (Agencies) — Hundreds of weary and hungry Palestinians shuttled under heavy rain between Israeli and Lebanese army checkpoints in southeast Lebanon Friday, seeking shelter after their expulsion from the occupied territories by Israel.

Lebanese tanks and armoured vehicles formed a roadblock before dawn and turned back more than 400 Palestinians forced out in an unprecedented mass expulsion that threatened Middle East peace talks in Washington.

The expelled Palestinians said to belong to the fundamentalist Hamas and Islamic Jihad organisations, trudged back in snow to the Zommaraya gateway to reenter Israel's self-styled "security zone" but found the passage closed.

Security sources said Israeli soldiers and Israel's surrogate militia, the South Lebanon Army, fired over their heads to send them away. No one was hurt.

The expulsion was retaliation for the killing of Israeli policeman Nissim Toledano, the sixth trooper slain by the Hamas organisation in two weeks.

A statement from Hamas distributed in Beirut threatened to kidnap more Israeli soldiers to trade them for the return of the expelled Palestinians and said: "This expulsion will fuel the wrath against the Zionist entity and its army."

The expelled Palestinians held their first Friday prayers in exile under a cold rain in no-man's land.

"We will have prayers as usual," announced leaders of the 415. Without a mosque or a prayer rug they knelt on the rain-soaked rocky soil of Israel's "security zone."

"God take our revenge on (Yitzhak) Rabin," prayer leader Dr. Abdul Aziz Al Rantisi said of the Israeli prime minister.

"Amen" came the heartfelt chorus as the rain fell about six kilometres north of Israeli troops who earlier Friday fired over their heads to drive them away from the frontier.

"This is the peace Rabin seeks. The peace of destroying houses, of emptying land. He wants nothing good for you or the sons of Palestine," Mr. Rantisi said.

"He only wants evil. We tell Rabin who wants to uproot the Islamic movement from Palestine that even if hundreds of members of the Muslim movement are deported thousands more will replace them."

"You will see that soon... we tell Rabin this deportation is the first nail in the coffin of the Zionist state," added Mr. Rantisi, who said he was a Gaza lecturer in Islamic studies.

Prime Minister Rafik Hariri talked by telephone with Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam and later said the Palestinians would not be allowed into government-held Lebanese territory.

"If any harm befalls any of the deportees, Israel will be responsible for it," Mr. Hariri said.

Defence Minister Moshe Dailouti said the deportation is tantamount to an Israeli aggression against Lebanon.

"Uprooting them from their land and sending them to Lebanon is absolutely unacceptable. Why are they not brought to trial in their country?" Mr. Dailouti said.

Mr. Rantisi urged President Elias Hrawi to help them return home.

"We are a people accustomed to hardships and we are willing to stay here in this area for as long as it takes for us to return to our lands," said Mr. Rantisi.

The chief delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Bernard Pfeiffer, said the Red Cross would provide about 20 tents, 1,200 blankets, kitchen sets, stoves and medical care for the expelled Palestinians.

He said emergency food supplies would be brought in the Bekaa Valley. "As long as they are stuck in a no-man's land area, we will provide them with shelter and relief supplies," he said.

He said the ICRC's Geneva headquarters would decide whether to evacuate the Palestinians.

The expelled Palestinians had left the "security zone" in a convoy of six buses at about 3:15 a.m. (0115 GMT), driven half way through to Marj Al Zohour and left stranded in rain and fog to walk the remaining distance to the Lebanese checkpoint.

Security sources said the Lebanese outpost, four kilometres from Zommaraya, had set up earthen mounds that blocked the roads.

Five T-54 tanks and 15 armoured personnel carriers were then brought in along with 250 troops to reinforce the blockade.

The Palestinians, most of them blindfolded, had arrived in Zommaraya, on the edge of the "security zone," on Thursday.

They had waited in buses along the rain-drenched frontier for 15 hours as Israel's supreme court heard appeals against the expulsion and finally decided to uphold the government's decision.

The prayer leader thanked Lebanon for barring the group from government-controlled territory and (Continued on page 5)

Over 400 Palestinians, expelled from the occupied territories by Israel, wait in an area between Israeli and Lebanese army positions Friday (AFP photo)

Security Council draft resolution asks Israel to rescind expulsion

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — The Security Council Friday was expected to condemn Israel's expulsion of over 400 Palestinians.

Western diplomats, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the 15-nation council would overwhelmingly adopt a resolution ordering Israel to rescind the expulsions, calling them a violation of the Geneva conventions.

The United States, usually a firm supporter of Israel, was expected to let the resolution pass by not using its veto power. On other occasions, including last January, the U.S. has condemned expulsions by the Israeli government.

A draft resolution says Israel is in violation of its obligations under the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, which calls for protection of civilians in occupied territories and prohibits expulsions. It also calls the expulsions detrimental to the current Middle East peace talks.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) U.N. observer discussed the issue with non-aligned members of the Security Council Thursday.

The PLO observer, Nasser Al Kidwa, has privately circulated the proposed resolution strongly condemning the Israeli decision to "mass deport Palestinian civilians" and calling on it to ensure the "safe and immediate return to the occupied territories of all those already deported."

Mr. Kidwa also sent a letter to Mr. Ghali asking him to "prevent the actual implementation" of the expulsion decision and "further violations by Israel, the occupying power, of international humanitarian law and United Nations resolutions."

He said: "Such an unprecedented mass deportation will be detrimental to the peace process currently under way and will certainly further cause the situation in the occupied Palestinian territory to deteriorate."

Israel has previously expelled 667 Palestinians since the December 1987 start of the uprising against its rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Dr. Ghali has called on Israel to rescind the expulsion orders and to permit the safe and immediate return of those expelled.

He notes that the Security Council has repeatedly reaffirmed the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention of Aug. 12, 1949, to the territories occupied by Israel, and recalls that Security Council Resolution 726, unanimously adopted on Jan. 6, 1992, specifically requested Israel to refrain from such action.

"He calls on the Israeli authorities to rescind the deportation orders and to permit the safe and immediate return of those expelled."

The King called the Middle East peace talks "an opportunity that shouldn't be lost" and said he expects the process will continue after President-elect Bill Clinton takes office Jan. 20.

During a photo session in the Oval Office, the King also told reporters he was feeling "very, very well."

Asked if he expects the peace talks to continue after the change in U.S. administrations, the King replied: "I haven't heard anything to the contrary. I think all the parties involved and engaged in the process see this as a chance and an opportunity that shouldn't be lost and therefore I think they will continue."

King Hussein said he believes progress in the talks is "slow but steady."

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No breakthrough yet in Mubarak's Gulf mediation

DUBAI (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has made little headway so far in persuading Saudi Arabia over a border row, to attend Monday's Gulf Arab summit, an Egyptian source said.

"There is no clear word" on whether Qatar will attend the Abu Dhabi summit after boycotting all Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) meetings since a border flare-up with Saudi Arabia on Sept. 30, said the source close to Mr. Mubarak's delegation.

Mr. Mubarak's last-minute mediation came as GCC foreign ministers were due in Abu Dhabi Friday to complete preparations for the annual summit.

The gathering has never before been boycotted by any of the six Gulf Arab states — Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Mr. Mubarak, who went to Doha on Thursday after talks with King Fahd in Saudi Arabia. He was holding a second meeting on Friday with the Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani, the source said.

"We are using our good offices to try to solve this problem."

Gulf diplomats said Mr. Mubarak's surprise intervention was apparently prompted by fears that a break in Gulf Arab ranks could encourage non-Arab Iran

to interfere in the affairs of the vital oil-rich region.

Cairo has accused Tehran of fomenting Islamic extremism across the Middle East, including in Egypt itself.

Mr. Mubarak has also shown keen interest in distancing Iran from Gulf Arab affairs since the signing of the "Damascus declaration" political pact by Gulf war allies Egypt, Syria and the six GCC states after Iraq's expulsion from Kuwait early last year.

Qatar, a relatively small oil producer but the owner of one of the world's largest natural gas reserves, has in contrast with its Gulf Arab neighbours established close ties with Iran over the past

few months.

It has accused Saudi Arabia of aggression over the border clash in which three people died and which followed several months of border tensions.

Although Qatar's Gulf Arab neighbours are angry that it has plunged the 11-year-old GCC into crisis over its dispute with Saudi Arabia, they are also unhappy that Riyadh has apparently shown little sign of compromise, Gulf diplomats said.

Previous mediation by Oman, a GCC member with a reputation of effective fence-mending within the region, apparently foundered on the hardline Saudi attitude, they added.

Somali gunmen hold up journalist in Baidoa

BAIDOA (R) — Three gunmen held up two foreign journalists at a feeding centre for starving Somalis on Thursday.

They stole a television camera and sent hundreds of children fleeing in terror by shooting into the air.

Visnews cameraman Mark Chisholm and Reuters correspondent Paul Holmes were leaving the Islamic Al Eshah feeding centre in Baidoa, the "city of death" at the heart of Somalia's famine, when the teenagers brandishing Kalashnikov rifles blocked the

exit. One gunman cocked his rifle and took aim at Chisholm, shouting "I'll kill you." The other two grabbed the camera.

The gunmen fired several shots in the air as they fled over a back wall, scattering children who had been sitting in lines waiting for food. No-one was hurt.

The journalists later returned to the scene with the local Somali National Alliance militia which said it would try to find the youths and recover the stolen equipment.

The hold-up demonstrated continued lawlessness in Baidoa, 250 kilometres west of Mogadishu, despite the arrival on Wednesday of 900 U.S. and French troops to provide armed escorts for food relief supplies.

Guns and the "technical" battlewagons used by marauding bandits have vanished from the streets of Mogadishu and Baidoa since the troops' arrival.

But several aid agency officials say robberies and muggings have increased. Gunmen who pre-

viously pillaged food convoys for the starving have switched to softer targets.

The United States has said it has no plans to forcibly disarm clan militias whose bloody feuding over the past two years has turned Somalia into a land of famine and anarchy.

France, which is contributing 2,200 men to an American-dominated force which eventually with swell to 35,000 troops, insists the guns must be seized to restore stability.

Qadhafi, Musaweni may be indicted in U.S. arms case

MIAMI (AP) — Federal prosecutors say they may name Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi and the president of Uganda as co-conspirators in a Florida arms smuggling case.

The case grew out of a U.S. Customs Service sting operation that resulted in the arrests of six people in August. One, the Ugandan ambassador to the United States, had to be released because he had diplomatic immunity.

In a letter made public Thursday, Assistant U.S. Attorney Judy Hunt gave defense attorneys a list of 11 people who may be named as indicted co-conspirators when the trial begins, as early as next month.

"Please be advised that, depending upon the facts adduced at trial, the government may take the position that the following were co-conspirators in the case," Ms. Hunt's letter said.

The list includes Colonel Qadhafi and high-level Libyan military and civilian officials. Also named are Uganda's President Yoweri Museveni, his Defence Secretary Ben Mbonye, the Ugandan ambassador and others.

Those arrested are accused of conspiring to ship \$19 million worth of arms, including 400 anti-tank missiles and 34 missile launchers, from the United States to Uganda.

Two suspects, including Mounir Fahmy Barsoum, former head of the Egyptian air force, also are accused of trying to ship

\$15 million in Chinook helicopter parts to Libya.

The United States has no diplomatic relations with Libya, which is one of six countries that U.S. officials say support "terrorism."

Mr. Fahmy and three co-defendants were lured to Orlando and arrested Aug. 18. The former Egyptian official, who became an arms broker after leaving the air force, was being held in the Seminole county jail, unable to meet bond.

The arms-smuggling case grew out of letters sent by undercover customs agents offering U.S. weapons to arms brokers.

Defence attorney Frank Rubino said some of those involved in the deal thought there were secret negotiations under way to normalise relations between the United States and Libya and the arms deal was being arranged in anticipation of that.

Mr. Rubino acknowledged that Mr. Fahmy met with Col. Qadhafi, and said he may ask the Libyan leader for a deposition.

He said Mr. Fahmy responded to the undercover agents' letters but insisted repeatedly that the deal for helicopter parts had to await normalisation of U.S. relations with Libya.

The White House, the State Department and the Justice Department had no immediate comment on the matter. The U.S. attorney's office did not return calls from the Associated Press.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Arab interior ministers to meet next in Tunisia

TUNIS (R) — Arab ministers of interior are to meet next month in Tunisia to discuss security issues, officials said. The Tunisian Interior Minister Abdullah Kallil discussed plans for the meeting with Ahmad Assaf, secretary general of the Tunis-based Arab Council of Ministers of Interior, Council said the meeting will take place on Jan. 4.

Japan sending \$100 million to Somalia

TOKYO (AP) — Japan pledged \$100 million Friday to the Nations aid effort for Somalia but refused to join the United Nations and other nations that are sending troops for the operation. Japan has been anxious to reach a quick decision on aid to avoid a stall in the Gulf war experience, when it was widely expected that Japan would contribute \$13 billion to the UN's largest army, eventually contributing \$13 billion to the use of force to settle international disputes. After a heated debate, parliament earlier this year enacted a law for the military to participate in U.N. peacekeeping operations. Japanese troops are now in Cambodia. Japan is still studying possibility of sending personnel for medical and refugee Somalia and neighbouring African nations.

Kurds ambush Turkish minibus, kill 5

ANKARA (R) — Separatist rebel Kurds killed three women and two children in an ambush on a civilian minibus in south Turkey, state radio said Friday. Eleven other people wounded when guerrillas of the outlawed Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) fired on the vehicle on Thursday on a village near Hazro town of Diyarbakir province. More than 5,000 people died in Turkey since 1984 when the PKK launched a violent for an independent state in the region.

Floods cut off villages in Iran

NICOSIA (R) — Heavy rains have flooded a southern province, cutting off several villages. Iranian Television said several towns in the province of Boyer-Ahmad near Kohgiluyeh were affected and emergency operations were underway to help a number of cut-off villages, it said. The area monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, estimate of damage and did not mention casualties.

Turkish Cypriot court jails Syrian poacher

NICOSIA (R) — A Turkish Cypriot court sentenced three fishermen Wednesday to 15 days in jail and minor fines for fishing in territorial waters. Officials of the district of Famagusta said the fishermen were detained Monday after caught poaching off the tip of the Karpas Peninsula, northeast of the island. They said the fishing boat was a

Mandela accepts invitation to visit Cyprus

NICOSIA (AP) — Nelson Mandela has accepted an invitation from President George Vassiliou to visit Cyprus, although has been fixed, the Cyprus News Agency reported. The invitation was presented to the African National Congress leader by Panayides, permanent secretary at the Cyprus Ministry of Affairs, who is visiting South Africa. The agency said Mr. Ma would visit the island "as soon as his numerous responsibilities allow him."

U.N. reports relief trucks bombed in Iraq

ROME (R) — The U.N. World Food Programme (WFP) Thursday that eight relief trucks had been destroyed by bombs in northern Iraq. The agency said the bombs went off Wednesday after the trucks had taken food and seeds to Kurds in the Zakho. Unexploded devices were found in nine other trucks. WFP said in a statement. It did not say whether there were injuries in the attacks. The WFP said Wednesday's incident was the third in three weeks in which U.N. relief trucks, distributing winter food aid to the Kurds in northern Iraq, targeted. Six trucks were destroyed on Nov. 29, and last unexploded time bombs were found on six others, the agency said.

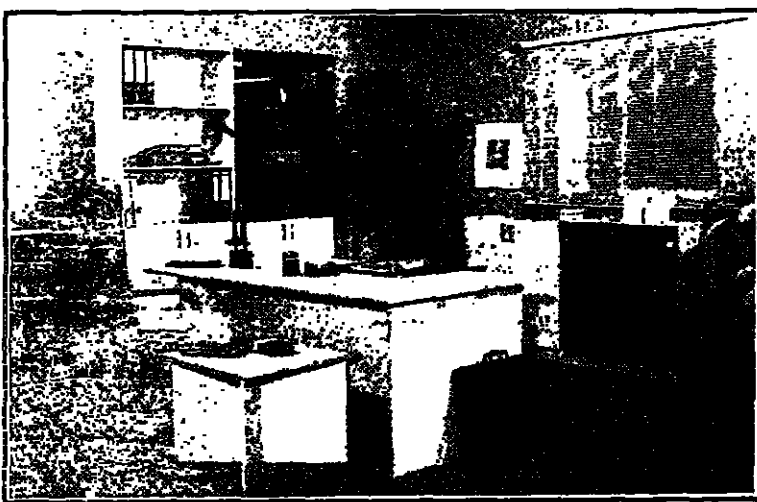
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3. Should be proficient in the English language, both written and spoken;
4. Should be a Jordanian citizen not less than 25 years of age;

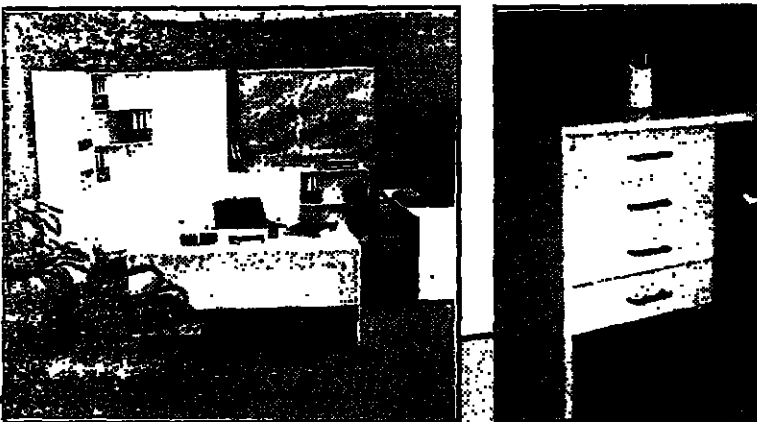
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JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRA...
18:30 Les Aventures du Bossu.
19:00 Envoyé Spécial
19:40 News in French
19:45 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 America's Funniest Home Videos
21:00 Perspectives
21:30 Varieties
22:00 News in English
22:20 Feature film: "Blind Indiscretion"

PRAYER TIMES

05:03 Fajr
06:25 (Sunrise) Dhuhr
11:52 Dhuhr
14:16 Asr
16:39 Maghreb
18:02 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swellish, Tel. 810740
Assessments of God Church, Tel. 637785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Sille Church Tel. 661757
Terra Santa Church Tel. 622366

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541

Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771351
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 772661
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Assiout International Church Tel. 683326
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 823824, 654932
Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

A rise in temperatures will take place and winds will be southerly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp.
Amman 3/12
Aqaba 9/21
Dumana 2/15
Jordan Valley 9/19

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 11, Aqaba 19, Humidity readings: Amman 71 per cent, Aqaba 35 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Faleh Abu Tayeh 885880
Dr. Mohamed Ma'ass 741444
Dr. Walid Ma'ass 675485
Dr. Abdul Kadir Alkhalil 690948
Ferdous pharmacy 661912
776336
Al Asana pharmacy 637055
Nawroth pharmacy 628672
Al Sela pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Sumasji pharmacy 637660
Najib pharmacy 947632

IRBID:
Dr. Omar Tahatouni (-)
Al Quds Pharmacy (-)

ZARQA:
Dr. Samir Al Lowai 909601
Khalil pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111
Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate 630341
Ramon 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 773121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 628200
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467
Complaints 897467
Complaints 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone 623101
Abdullah Telephone Repairs 601101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680190
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power

Company 636381
RJ Flight Information 08-53200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hamad Medical Centre 813813/32
Khalil Maternity, J. Amn. 642816/6
Abdullah Maternity, J. Amn. 642411/2
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Pakistani, Shamsi 664171/4
Shamsi Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Munassar Hospital 667227/9
The Islamic, Abdali 666122/57
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6
Italian, Al-Muhajir 777101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111/26
Anwar, Marja 891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital 622240/50
Amal Hospital 674155

ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)905610
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986722
Al Hikam Modern Hospital (09)990990

IRBID:
Princess Beama Hospital (02)275555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)72275
Ibn Al Nafies Hospital (02)247100
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER
QUEEN ALIA
INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights
(Terminal 1)

06:30 Jakarta, Singapore (RJ)
09:15 Cairo, Ajlun (RJ)
09:15 Jeddah (RJ)
09:30 New Delhi (RJ)

09:40 Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
10:15 Beirut (RJ)
10:30 Colombo (RJ)
10:45 Cairo (RJ)
11:00 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
11:15 Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)
11:30 Bangkok (RJ)
11:30 Berlin (RJ)
11:35 London, Berlin (RJ)
12:00 Frankfurt (RJ)
12:05 London (RJ)
12:30 Jeddah (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

11:30 Sana'a (YV)
17:55 Paris, Damascus (AF)
19:00 Beirut, Damascus, Emirates, Paris (AF)
19:25 Rome, Beirut (AZ)

DEPARTURES
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights
(Terminal 1)

06:15 Beirut (RJ)
07:45 London (RJ)
11:00 Berlin (RJ)
11:30 Paris, Brussels (RJ)
11:30 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
11:30 Geneva, Munich (RJ)
12:10 London (RJ)
12:15 Frankfurt (RJ)
12:45 Jeddah (RJ)
22:00 Beirut (RJ)
22:15 Jeddah (RJ)
22:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
22:30 Jeddah (RJ)

24:30 Larissa (R)
Other Flights (Terminal 2)
07:45 Larissa (C)
08:15 Beirut (AF)
08:30 Beirut (AF)
22:30 Damascus (AF)

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Jordanian dinars

Apple 240/250
Banana 220/230
Bunnet (Mukawwan) 220/230
Bunnet 220/230
Cabbage 220/230
Carrot 220/230
Cauliflower 220/230
Cucumber (large) 220/230
Cucumber (small) 220/230
Eggplant 220/230
Garlic 220/230
Onion 220/230
Lemon 220/230
Marrow (large) 220/230
Marrow (small) 220/230
Oatmeal (flour) 220/230
Oatmeal (groats) 220/230
Orange 220/230
Pepper (hot) 220/230
Pepper (sweet) 220/230
Potato 220/230
Tomato 220/230
Spinach 220/230
Mint 220/230
Green Olive 220/230

تكنولوجيا الأصل

Home News

Danish politician condemns Israeli deportation

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Secretary General of the Socialist Democratic Party in Denmark, Steen Christensen, now on a four day visit to Jordan, has condemned the deportation of 418 Palestinians to Lebanon and said his party's solidarity with Arab rights and support for a durable peace in the Middle East.

Mr. Christensen said that the deportation of the Palestinians is not only unwise but also violating international regulations.

The Danish Socialist Democratic Party supports a durable peace in the region that will be achieved through dialogue and mutual understanding.

Mr. Christensen said at a meeting with Jordanian parliamentarians Thursday, "Before 1967 war during which Israel occupied Arab lands, the Danish Socialist Democratic Party had maintained good relations with all but after the occupation of the Jewish state took over the land, the relations became hostile."

Mr. Christensen and his party went Friday on a sightseeing tour of a number of attractions in Amman, including the Jordan Museum and the Abdullatif Jabbari Center.

Shaker and Information Minister Mahmoud Sharif Saturday for more discussions on Danish-Jordanian relations and the situation in the Middle East region.

Mr. Christensen met Thursday with Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber and discussed the ongoing peace process and underlined Jordan's important and positive role in efforts to attain a just peace.

Mr. Christensen told Dr. Abu Jaber that Denmark supports the rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. For his part, Dr. Abu Jaber briefed the visiting Danish delegation on Jordan's views on the peace process and the extra burden the country was shouldering as a result of the return of hundreds of thousands of people from Kuwait.

Mr. Christensen and his delegation were received by Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Abdul Latif Arabiyat who outlined the Arab Israeli conflict. Deputy Taher Al Masri called on Denmark to give momentum to Jordanian-Danish relations and urged Copenhagen to play an active role in settling the Middle East problem and in safeguarding the rights of the Palestinian people.

The Danish delegation had met

also with senators led by Deputy Speaker Bahjat Talhouni to discuss the situation in the region. Before coming to Jordan, Mr. Christensen said that his tour of the region was aimed at obtaining first hand information about the situation before Denmark assumes the presidency of the European Community.

He said that his party was

Education conference starts Sunday

AMMAN (Petra) — A round table conference on education will be organized in Amman Sunday by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and the Ministry of Education.

Announcing the meeting Friday, Dr. Wajih Al Farah, director of research and educational development at the Ministry of Education said that delegates from Yemen, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and Jordan will discuss education at different levels.

The four-day discussion will focus on education in Jordan, difficulties facing the educational process and needs of Jordan's primary level. Dr. Farah said that the delegates will discuss means of ensuring basic education for the young generation by the end of the year 2000. He said that several working papers on education for children, the eradication of illiteracy, adult education, care

determined to try to give momentum to the European Community's drive to provide Jordan with economic aid and help the country overcome the consequences of the Gulf war and the return of expatriates.

Mr. Christensen and his party who met in Tunis on their way to Jordan with the Palestinian President Yasser Arafat plan to leave Amman on Sunday.

for children with special needs and education for women will be reviewed at the meeting.

Dr. Farah said that Jordanian universities, trade unions and a number of government departments as well as international organisations operating in Jordan such as UNICEF, the Noor Al Hussein Foundation and the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund will be represented at the meeting.

The conference Sunday comes close on the heels of a meeting which concerns on-the-job training of teachers which ended in Amman Thursday. Organised by the Arab League Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation in cooperation with the Ministry of Education in Jordan, the seminar examined means of helping school teachers with diplomas to attain at least the first university degrees through on-the-job training courses.

Teachers' union retains threat of strike action

By Hind-Lara Mango
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The General Union for Employees in Private Education called off a strike on Saturday 12 December, and rescheduled it for 22 December according to Union president Mazen Al Ma'ayta if the Ministry of Education does not meet the Union's demands. The strike will involve eighteen thousand teachers and administrators in private educational institutions, he said.

The reasons behind the strike stem from the non-application of the 1974 collective agreement which specifies the equality of employees in private education with their counterparts at the Ministry of Education. This means that a teacher or administrator in the private sector should receive the same wages and have the same number of lessons to teach as one working for the ministry. On average the maximum work load in the private sector should be eight hours a day. But in a lot of instances teachers and administrators put in more working hours than is legally accepted, and work in unacceptable working conditions," said Mr. Ma'ayta.

There are 800 private schools in Jordan, and Mr. Ma'ayta pointed out that 60 per cent of these do not give their employees proper wages. A common occurrence, he noted, was that teachers are paid JD 30 a month without an official contract. School owners therefore avoid paying large amounts of money to the Social Security Department, since wages are not declared.

Mr. Ma'ayta pointed out that inspections by the Ministry of Labour were few and could not cope with all departments. If caught, he said, the school would only have to pay a minor fine which would not prevent it from committing the same crime again.

"There is no law to force a school owner to pay his employees a certain salary," he elaborated.

Mr. Ma'ayta claimed that the Ministry of Education said that this problem did not lie within its jurisdiction but the Ministry of Labour.

The Union, he said, has called on the Ministry of Education to take more responsibility in taking decisions without having to go through the Ministry of Labour.

Mr. Ma'ayta said that nothing had been done so far. "Now was the time as working conditions got deplorable and as Jordan was passing through an era of democracy that allowed us to stage a strike."

Last week, on 12 December, Union members met with Minister of Education Thouqan Al Hindawi as a last appeal. Mr. Ma'ayta said that the Minister showed surprise on hearing that the collective agreement of 1974 was being breached, and promised to remedy the situation. It was decided that a committee would be formed to circulate all the educational departments in the Kingdom to make sure that they were abiding by the agreement.

The Union president pointed out however that the strike would go ahead if conditions were not remedied soon.

Tribal leaders take Maan Municipal Council

By Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A group of tribal leaders swept the 12-seat Maan Municipal Council defeating an Islamist bloc in the city's first elections in eight years.

The Al Ahd (the pledge) bloc victory (not to be confused with the Al Ahd political party) was announced Thursday in line with predictions by political observers in the district.

"The city is tribal and tribal politics play the major role in the voting patterns," said one resident observer of the city.

A voting turn-out of 63 per cent was considered high because of the prevailing political apathy in the area. Most residents have tribal affiliations and it was predicted that the 12-member Al Ahd bloc would win uncontested.

Thursday's results must be seen in perspective to elections held in

this southern city in 1984 when tribal representatives ran against one another. Calls of foul play and a squabble over the presidency of the council led to violence and vandalism. Two years later in 1986 a tribal pact was agreed upon by the major clans which control Maan in which the municipal council presidency would rotate among the tribal representatives every two years, hence the name 'the pledge.'

Existing political parties are said to have almost no foothold in Maan. In the 1989 legislative elections candidates with strong tribal affiliations won four of the five seats allocated to the Maan Governorate. Only Youssef Al Athem, an outspoken Islamist had any clear political affiliation other than tribalism.

Maan, a historical trading link between Mecca and Damascus, has become the trucking capital

of Jordan in the last 20 years. In April 1989 it was the site of price riots which led to the downfall of then Prime Minister Zaid Rifai's government and the Maan riots are often cited as the incident which put Jordan's democratisation efforts into fast gear.

Maan suffered unemployment rates of up to 75 per cent during the Gulf crisis and it was hurt after Iraq invaded Kuwait in August 1990 when Gulf countries banned all Jordanian transport vehicles and the U.N. endorsed the economic embargo on Iraq.

Today the economic situation has improved in Maan but poverty is still rampant. Unemployment for example has gone down to 25-35 per cent.

Maan like Tafleh and Karak has not been as influenced by Islamist politics as Amman and northern districts in Jordan. While cities like Karak always

enjoyed left wing and pan-Arab political activities Maan has remained staunchly tribal.

In November elections in Tafleh, tribal leaders swept the municipal council elections on separate tickets rather than a bloc.

In Karak in the same month, tribal candidates with back-door Islamist backing, swept that city's municipal council.

Of the 5,318 eligible voters 3,368 went to the polls. The new municipal council consists of: Musa Amin Al Tahan (2,233 votes received), Shaher Muhtesib — 1,917, Ayed Rawad — 1,905, Saud Miree — 1,900, Abdul Abu Hilaleh — 1,747, Mohammad Al Amah — 1,742, Khaled Shweiter — 1,731, Ahmad Abu Odeh — 1,688, Mohammad Obeido — 1,685, Hassan Al Khoura — 1,671, Ali Karajeli — 1,662 and Musbah Ibrahim Zweid — 1,641.

Deputies complete tour of Aqaba

AQABA (Petra) — The chairman and members of the Agricultural Committee at the Lower House of Parliament who are inspecting agricultural projects in south Jordan, Wednesday visited the sea port of Aqaba and met with Aqaba's Governor Qafan Majali.

Discussions covered problems facing the agricultural sector and fisheries in Aqaba. The high cost of equipment, farm machinery and poor supply of water and insufficient pasture lands were cited as important factors behind the problem.

The governor said that the agricultural sector is suffering from limited investment.

Deputies later met with local farmers to discuss their difficulties in marketing products and they received requests for better transportation for exports and subsidised overheads such as reduced electricity costs.

French general on military visit

AMMAN (J.T.) — Commander of the French Air Force General Vincent Lanata and a two-member delegation on a four-day trip to Jordan plan to visit a number of Jordanian military positions Saturday before leaving for Paris Sunday, according to a French embassy official Friday.

The official told the Jordan Times that the three-member team who met with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Field Marshal Fathi Abu Taleb Thursday before resuming their meetings with the military personnel on Saturday.

General Lanata and his party visited Thursday a number of air force bases in Jordan and met with air force officers.

According to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, discussions with Field Marshal Abu Taleb covered the situation in the Middle East



Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Field Marshal Fathi Abu Taleb (left) meets French Air Force General Vincent Lanata Thursday

and Jordanian Armed Forces participation in U.N. peace-keeping forces around the world. The two sides also reviewed scopes of cooperation between Paris and Amman in joint training for the military and the exchange of expertise for the benefit of both sides, said Petra.

General Lanata voiced his country's deep satisfaction with the level of joint military cooperation between Jordan and France, Petra noted. It said that the French team later listened to a briefing on the development and duties of the Jordanian Royal Air force.

Investigations continue into major smuggling case

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — One of the biggest smuggling cases in Jordan being examined by local courts is far from over.

The case, which involves the smuggling of thousands of cartons of foreign cigarettes from the Zarga free zone is still being examined by the customs court, nearly seven months after being filed by the public prosecutor.

Eleven employees of the International Trading and Marketing Company (INTRAM), along with seven customs officers, are charged with smuggling.

Details of the case were revealed in a letter addressed to the Lower House of Parliament Speaker Abdul Latif Arabiyat by Finance and Customs Minister Basel Jaradneh dated Nov. 23, 1992. The letter stated that the case, raised by the public prosecutor against INTRAM and its proprietors, as well as the other persons and customs officers was

still being examined by the court.

The finance minister's letter gave details about the accused and the case which involves the smuggling of 4018 cartons of foreign made cigarettes. The cigarettes were smuggled through Zarga's free zone and were distributed in Jordan. The letter stated that Abdul Rahman Mamdouh Abu Hassan from INTRAM was responsible for importing the cigarettes and placing them in the free zone.

Abdul Rahman transferred authority for the cigarettes to his Sri Lankan employee Jaket Bereira so that he could himself escape responsibility, the minister's letter noted. The Sri Lankan then arranged for the cigarettes to be transported out of the free zone and taken to Abu Alanda near Amman where they were marketed with the help of the accused Bilal Saleh Abu Hassan and Saleh Abu Hassan, along with a number of customs officials and their employees.

The letter continued that Ramzi Mamdouh Abu Hassan was charged for his role in helping his brother Abdul Rahman in the

process. Saleh Mahmoud Abu Hassan was also charged along with Bilal Saleh Abu Hassan and Jaket Bereira.

It was Bereira who received truck loads of smuggled cigarettes at a warehouse the company owned, and at a farm before marketing them elsewhere in Jordan.

The Sri Lankan has still not been found and the police served notice to all border posts to stop him if he attempted to flee the country. The minister's letter also stated that Yahya Shakhik Khirfan, Abdullah Awadallah Abu Zaid and Saleh Abu Zaid were charged with buying 600 cartons and marketing them in Jordan, while Ibrahim Jamil and Azar Jamil, two Iraqi nationals were also charged of being accomplice in the case for transporting the cigarettes.

The minister's letter named the following customs officers who were bribed to allow the cigarettes to be taken out of the free zone: Mahmoud Naamneh who received JD 5,000, Fawzi Obeidat who got JD 5,100, Mohammad Zoubi, JD 300; Bahij Rawashdeh, JD 660; Nabil

Marian, JD 2,000 and Mahmoud Khasawneh, JD 700.

The letter came in response to queries raised by Deputy Abdul Karim Al Dughni, from the Mafraq constituency, about the persons involved in the case and the government's procedures to deal with the matter. It stated that the illicit operation was discovered when two Iraqi registered trucks laden with cigarettes were checked by customs officials while being driven along the ring road near Amman.

Customs authorities discovered the full details of the missing cartons when he inspected the warehouses in the free zone before alerting the public prosecutors and the police. Instructions then went out to various departments to stop any procedure concerning businesses with INTRAM.

The minister's letter said that the delay for reply to Mr. Dughni's query was justified as the time was needed to complete investigations into the case, but it did not reveal whether the accused were freed on bail or not.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Princess Alia inaugurates free medical day

AQABA (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Bint Al Hussein Thursday inaugurated the free voluntary medical day, organised by the Rural Women Development and Rehabilitation Society, in cooperation with the Jordan National Red Crescent Society and Aqaba Health Department. Aqaba District Governor Fathi Al Majali welcomed Princess Alia and thanked her for sponsoring the event.

Regional office of Red Crescent to open in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber and his delegation of the Middle East and North Africa, Desk at the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies Sulaiman Al Ammari Thursday signed an agreement under which a regional office of the Federation will be set up in Amman. The agreement defines the legal status of the office in Jordan, its staff, operation and managements. The office aims at extending a helping hand to the National Red Crescent societies in the Middle East, and facilitating relief operations.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

An exhibition of ceramics by the Jordanian artist Mahmoud Taleh at Alia Art Gallery.

Exhibition of paintings by Samer Ousama at the French Cultural Centre.

Exhibition of paintings and silkscreen by three artists from Gaza Faysal Al Hassan, Kamel Al Mughni and Iida Shawa at Abdul Hamid Shomran Foundation Gallery (10 a.m. - 5 p.m.).

Exhibition by Iraqi artist Shaker Hissan Al Saeed at the Jordan Gallery of Fine Arts.

Exhibition of paintings by artist Kamel Al Jawhari at Housing Bank Complex Art Gallery.

LECTURE

Lecture entitled "Growing up in Binational Families" by Dr. Josi Saleem — Pickarts at the Geothel Institut at 7 p.m.

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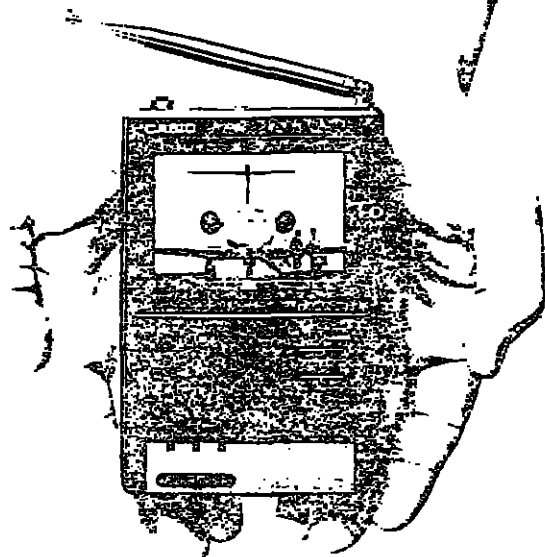
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Oman Day at FOA Centre

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The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Expulsions block peace

ISRAEL PRESCRIBED to and practised the juridical and political policy of guilt by association when it decided to expel 415 Hamas activists on Thursday. This policy is obviously untenable both on legal and moral grounds and bound to backfire with vengeance in due course. Neither the Fourth Geneva Convention applicable to occupied territories nor customary international law would condone this outrageous reaction to the kidnapping and killing of an Israeli soldier last week. Had the Israeli authorities confined their response to this killing to the apprehension of the killer or killers, few people would have had a legal or moral grounds to object. By going out in a precipitous manner for a shot-gun approach that aimed to punish the guilty as well as the innocent in an indiscriminate way, however, the Israeli government has in effect forfeited its country's credentials as a "democratic country" that is governed by the rule of law.

But what adds insult to injury is the open manipulation of the highest court in Israel in favour of expediting the mass expulsion order. The best evidence of this farcical act was the fact that the 415 were well on their way to the Israel-Lebanon border when the Israeli high court of justice was convened in the wee hours of Thursday to bless the already taken decision to transfer the expelled people to Lebanon.

From a strictly political point of view, the Israeli action has to be condemned because it plays straight into the hands of those who would rather abort the peace process altogether. By acting so irrationally, Israel has forced the Palestinian and other Arab negotiating teams into a corner where they had to boycott the remaining days of the eighth round of peace talks in Washington. Maybe Palestinian spokeswoman Hanan Ashrawi somewhat overstated the case when she described the mass expulsion of Palestinian fundamentalists Thursday as tantamount to a death blow to the peace parleys; but she was not far from the mark in her assessment of the fallout of this rash and illegal Israeli reaction to the soldier's killing.

Since there is growing consensus on both sides of the fence that the cycle of violence can end only within the framework of a peaceful and just settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict, the acceleration of the pace of the peace negotiations would offer the most effective preventive measure for ending the senseless bloodletting in both camps. Neither the Palestinian side nor the Israeli side should heat the climate of negotiations between them to the point of no return. The only avenue available to all is that which leads to the end of violence and bloodshed. The earlier this realisation dawns the better for all concerned. In the meanwhile, the Israelis have got to realise that without allowing the 415 Palestinians to return home the peace talks will suffer irreparable damage and at best would lead us nowhere.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

THE KILLING of the Israeli soldier kidnapped by Hamas seems to have caused no change in Israel's repressive policies against the Palestinians, and the Israeli leaders seem to be resolved to pursue atrocities, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily. The paper said that Mr. Rabin has the power to declare war on the intifada as a reaction to the killing of the kidnapped soldier, and can escalate repression and acts of terrorism on the Arabs under Israel's rule, but he cannot transform the occupied territories into an amusement park for his troops moving at will in Arab land, killing people and demolishing their houses. The paper said that by no means can Mr. Rabin transform the young Palestinians' stones into roses and stop the oppressed people from fighting for their freedom. The fact, which Israel realises, is that the more it holds on to the occupied lands the more the Arabs will be determined to liberate them; and the farther away from the path of genuine peace it moves the fiercer the action it will face by the Palestinian freedom fighters, the paper said. The Israeli leadership should take stock of the past events and should in the end realise the futility of its present strategy and the failure of its aggressive policies, continued the paper. Instead of learning a lesson from the killing of the kidnapped soldier, Mr. Rabin has turned to more threats and acts of reprisal; and instead of giving up repression, Mr. Rabin is still adamant in rejecting Arab countries' demand for land in exchange of peace, in implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions, said the daily. It said that Israel will therefore continue to reap what it has sown.

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i called on the government to reallocate funds now being used to subsidise foodstuffs for every Jordanian citizen to benefit only the needy among them. Fahd Al Fanek said that although allocating JD 45 million in the fiscal budget for subsidies does not create a catastrophe to the Jordanian financial position, one is prompted to suggest that such an allocation can have a better use, going in the right direction: the development and aid fund which caters to the needs of the very poor people. The writer said that in the case of subsidies for food, the government can easily transfer the funds to the very needy and later, gradually end the subsidies altogether. He said that government subsidies tend to encourage people to spend more and terminating the subsidies helps people economise. He said the government can continue to subsidise education because the country tends to gain and has nothing to lose. Unlike food, people cannot exploit education in a harmful manner and cannot smuggle education as they might smuggle subsidised food out of the country. The writer said there is no alternative to helping the very poor sector in society, and this can be done through diverting funds from subsidies to all towards only benefiting the needy through the National Aid Fund and the Development and Employment Fund which cannot only offer direct aid to the poor but also help them become productive people.

Single market — a shining dream tarnished, partly realised

By Sally Jacobsen
The Associated Press

BRUSSELS, Belgium — It was to be Europe's bright, shining moment.

At the stroke of midnight Dec. 31, all borders dividing the dozen nations of the European Community and some of their neighbours would melt away, allowing people, goods, money and services to flow freely.

Western Europe would become the world's largest market, with a prosperous population of 370 million. Its companies would vie with American and Japanese competitors, and its economies would soar.

But with the deadline almost here, the single market dream has become tarnished, its luster dimmed by economic troubles, political unease and divisions among the nations.

Most are caught in a recession that shows no sign of abating. Some of their currencies are taking the worst battering in years. Their governments bicker over plans for a political and economic union that arouses fears in electorates of losing power to a bureaucracy in Brussels.

Still, the border-free area will be a remarkable step forward for Europe, even though it will not be seamless in the American sense.

"It will overwhelmingly be completed; there are a few ragged edges," EC Vice President Sir Leon Brittan said of the single-market plan. Other difficulties "should not in any way obscure the huge importance of completing the single market," he said in an interview.

In seven years, the EC nations have taken tough decisions to remove many of Western Europe's trade barriers.

The community has nearly finished a schedule set out in a 1985 "white paper" for creating a single market. By mid-November, 91 per cent of the paper's 282 measures had been adopted.

Only 78 per cent of the rules requiring national legislation had been enacted, however, with Spain and Italy most lagged.

"The virtual completion of the 1985 programme is an astonishing achievement," said Stanley Crossick, a veteran EC watcher in Brussels. "Nobody ever believed it would be done."

In the new market will be the 330 million consumers of Belgium, Britain, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal and Spain.

It also is intended to pull Austria, Finland, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Sweden into a new European Economic Area, but some are not expected to ratify the agreement in time.

Liechtenstein approved the agreement Sunday. Switzerland voted against becoming part of the area last week.

Many, but not all, frontier barriers will fall Jan. 1.

Travelers to countries other than Britain, Ireland and Denmark should find fewer border checks, and in some places none. When airports are ready for the new procedure, travelers from outside the market will go through passport controls but those from within it will not.

Workers will increasingly be able to move to other countries in

What will and won't happen on Jan. 1

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — Some measures that will, or will not, take effect Jan. 1 in the European Community's single market programme:

— Border checks for travelers will be eliminated gradually, except in Britain, Ireland and Denmark. Foreign travelers to the free-border region will theoretically undergo only one passport check.

— For travelers within the market, baggage inspections by customs agents will end at midnight Dec. 31.

— The last administrative document truckers must carry for goods crossing EC borders will be eliminated.

— A general minimum value added tax of 15 per cent will take effect Jan. 1 but lower rates, even no tax, will be allowed for selected goods such as children's clothing and food. High rates on luxury goods will be abolished.

— People will be allowed to buy unlimited wine, electronic goods and other items for personal use without frontier restrictions and to move such goods as household furniture across borders without paying duty.

— A transitional system for collecting value added taxes will begin Jan. 1. Tourists will pay in the country where they buy the goods, businesses in their headquarters countries until 1997.

— Consumers will be able to buy vehicles in other countries, paying taxes on new cars where they are registered and on used cars where they are purchased.

— Imports of Japanese cars will be limited until the end of the century.

— Lawyers, engineers, accountants and teachers certified in one country have been allowed to practice in another country since June 1991. Opticians, dental hygienists and others requiring less than three years of university training will be able to practice in other countries starting in June 1994. Additional aptitude tests may be required in both cases.

— Banks will be allowed branches in other countries. As of Nov. 30, agents could insure commercial fleets of trucks and cars, but they must wait until mid-1994 to sell personal car and life policies. Securities traders and investment advisers will not be able to offer cross-border services until 1996.

— Truckers will be allowed to carry return loads without restrictions for the first time, but may be limited in moving goods within a country other than their own.

— Duty-free airport shops will continue until July 1, 1999, for travelers within the market region.

— A single currency will not be inaugurated until the end of the decade.

search of better jobs and find their qualifications honoured.

"It's going to have a revolutionary impact on Europe," said John Mogg, deputy director of the single market programme. People will be able to "work and live in other countries as easily as moving from Connecticut to Texas," he said.

Truckers will be able to haul cargo across Europe without stopping because the last required transit document will be abolished.

Not long ago, for example, a driver needed 34 documents to carry battery-powered shavers from one country to the next, and had to return empty. Now, he will be able to bring back a cargo, but still may be limited in moving goods within a country other than his own.

Many companies will be able to move off their home turf for the first time.

Banks will be allowed to open branches in other countries. Agents have insured fleets of commercial vehicles since Nov. 20, but will not be able to sell personal auto or life policies for several more years.

A boon to consumers will be the ability to buy unlimited amounts of wine, electronic goods and other items for personal use without worrying about border restrictions. The minimum value added tax, a form of sales tax, will be 15 per cent with some exceptions.

Some places, like the Dutch border town of Maastricht, already practice the single mar-

ket. Shoppers from neighbouring Belgium, Luxembourg and Germany walk its narrow streets searching for bargains.

Desiree Rodolf, a clerk at the Van Leender fish stall in the town square, said Maastricht has had a common market "for a long time." She sells herring, eels and other fish for Dutch guilders, Belgian francs or German marks.

A few blocks away, Belgian businessman Jean-Pierre Coene told a reporter he buys wine in Luxembourg, which has lower taxes on alcohol, and shoes in England because "they are cheaper."

Mr. Coene, sales manager of Papeteries de Clairefontaine, a French paper company, said it had bought a German firm to gain strength in that market.

"The feeling was that Europe was going to be a fact in 1992," he said, so the company "organised itself to be ready for that big rendezvous."

Zygmunt Tyszkiewicz, director of the European Employers' Confederation known as UNICE, said big companies are restructuring to achieve greater efficiency and productivity at lower cost.

Truckers should be able to cut delivery times because they will no longer be slowed by frontiers, he said.

"With three times faster speed, you can use three times less rolling stock to carry the same volume of goods," Mr. Tyszkiewicz said. "That's already a great savings."

Copies of all sizes will find it easier to sell in other countries,

but so will their competitors, and that means "they are going to get extra efficient," he said. "The harsh reality is that those who can't become efficient will get displaced by those who can."

In the long run, European businesses are expected to become more competitive with U.S. and Japanese rivals, helping the general EC economy.

Thousands of those American and Japanese rivals have come to Europe.

"To survive and prosper over the '90s, (companies) must include the European market in their plans," said Dimitri Papakyriacou, European marketing manager for Aspen technology, based in Massachusetts.

Michael Leydon, Projects Manager of the Shannon Development Agency in Ireland, said: "There were hidden barriers to trade, so it's very attractive now for American companies that these barriers are gone."

Mr. Crossick, the EC watcher, said the single market has "still got a long way to go."

Standards for thousands of products still are not uniform, which adds enormous costs in getting goods approved for sale in different countries.

Local firms have lost some advantage in bidding for public works projects, but the field has not been completely opened to foreigners.

Businessmen worry that not all governments will apply the rules uniformly.

"If authorities in a particular country (do not) enforce legislation, then your competitor is getting a free ride," Mr. Tyszkiewicz said. "There have to be sanctions (against) cheating."

A single currency remains far away.

Mr. Coene said wild swings in the money markets are a "nightmare" that often hurts his company's profits, and a single currency "would be dream."

Mr. Crossick said a true single market is not possible without a single currency.

Jordan

(Continued from page 1)

the Arab parties engaged in peace talks with Israel to terminate the negotiations and return home.

"The continuation of the negotiations implies that you bless the Zionist measures against the Palestinians," said the statement, addressing the peace negotiators. If that is the case, "you will be held accountable for failing to support the Palestinian cause."

The statement called on the world community and international human rights organisations to condemn the Israeli action.

The Islamic Action Front, the broader political arm of the Brotherhood, also condemned the Israeli measure and warned that the occupation authorities could be planning yet more expulsions. An Islamic Action Front statement also called on international organisations and the Arab League to pressure Israel into rescinding its action and also called on the Arab peace negotiators to withdraw from the talks.

The Islamic resistance movement, Hamas, whose activists claimed responsibility for the killing of the Israeli policeman, said the expulsion "would only lead further strength to the intifada and Palestinian resistance against the military occupation."

The hysterical repressive measures being adopted against the Palestinian people will only give the Hamas freedom fighters further momentum and strength to confront the Israeli military machine and to turn the land into an inferno for the occupation forces," it said.

Hamas also urged the Arabs to quit peace negotiations with Israel and called on the U.N. to exercise pressure on Israel to respect international law.

The statement included a pledge of immediate retaliation against Israeli forces.

Israel under fire

(Continued from page 1)

measures to ensure respect for the Fourth Geneva Convention, which, under Article 49, absolutely forbids deportation "of protected persons from occupied territory" and to implement United Nations Security Council Resolution 726 of Jan. 6, 1992, which unanimously rejected Israel's deportation policy and affirmed the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention to the occupied Palestinian territories.

"At least 17 Birzeit University students were among the over 1,200 Palestinians rounded up in the past few days, and Birzeit faculty and students share the anxiety and suffering of their families and friends, who do not know their current state or their future fate," it said.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees also deplored the Israeli move.

Commissioner-General Ilter Turkmen said in UNRWA Headquarters in Vienna that first reports indicate that the deportees include many Palestinian refugees registered with UNRWA and at least one UNRWA staff member.

"On several occasions in the recent past, UNRWA has had reason to protest this practice, which regrettably has now been resumed on a greatly increased scale," a UNRWA statement said.

THE WEEK IN PRINT

Draft press an publications law is unfair to the journalists, run against tide of democracy

Reviewed by Elia Nasrallah

Israel's expulsions of the Palestinian citizens to Lebanon on Thursday, its escalation of repressive measures inside the occupied territories, the peace negotiations in Washington and the press and publications draft law being examined by Parliament were prominent topics discussed by the Jordanian press in the past week.

The expulsion of Palestinians is in effect an assassination of the peace process as well as a flagrant violation of the international laws and basic human rights, said Sawt Al Shaab daily.

It appears that the quick decision to expel the Palestinians was awaited by the Rabin government which took the killing of the Israeli soldier as an excuse for the deportation measures, said the daily.

Mass expulsion is an established strategy adopted by the Israeli government under the Labour Party, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily. The paper said that the international community is called on to abort Israel's civil policies if peace and security are to be established in the region.

Al Dustour said that over the past quarter of a century Israel has been expelling Palestinians, but this time it has taken an unprecedented step by deporting hundreds who committed no crime. The paper said that the Israeli measure should draw the world's attention to the ongoing atrocities and the repressive policies committed against the Palestinians.

Referring to the abduction of the Israeli soldier which triggered Israel's latest move, Mahmoud Rimawi, a columnist in Al Ra'i said that the Israelis are holding the whole Palestinian population hostage in their own land and committing one crime after another.

The writer said that Hamas was forced to take the action against the abducted soldier because of Israel's continued intransigence and its failure to respond favourably to the Arab demands for freedom and an end to the occupation.

Mohammad Kawash in Al Dustour said that the escalation of the Israeli measures against the Palestinians is being answered by countermeasures on the part of the resistance movement inside the occupied territories.

He said that the attacks on the Israelis in Hebron, Gaza and other areas prove that the intifada was entering a new phase with the beginning of the sixth year of its life.

Taber Al Udwah said that the Rabin government employed all methods, including mass killings, mass expulsion, demolition of homes and murdering the young Palestinians, but has achieved nothing.

The columnist, who writes for Al Dustour, said that the Arab League should now submit a formal request to the U.N. Security Council to convene and debate Israel's atrocities.

Salameh Ekour, who writes for Sawt Al Shaab, said that the kidnapping of the Israeli soldier was a new development in the intifada techniques as the Palestinians escalate their resistance.

The writer said that Hamas, which is now enjoying the support of the majority of the Palestinians, is taking the lead among other groups in confronting the enemy.

Tareq Masarweh, a columnist in Al Ra'i, applauded the Hamas action against the Israeli forces, but noted that the upsurge in Hamas tactics was negatively affecting the PLO's moves towards a peaceful settlement with Israel.

He said that the violence was not serving the peace process and could force Mr. Rabin to take further violent actions against the Palestinian resistance.

For Saleh Qallab, a columnist in Al Dustour, the

Hamas move was a continuation of the ongoing war between the PLO and other Palestinian groups. But the writer said that Hamas, which has no alternative to pursuing the fighting by any means, has no alternative to continuing the war cooperation with the groups or separately.

Should the peace continue, said the writer, Palestinian delegations well backed by a large force in the Palestinian land.

Referring to the peace stations, Sawt Al Shaab said the talks represent wasted effort, especially light of Israel's escalation of its acts of violence.

The paper said that was betting on violence terrorism which can be a counter to the peace which the Arabs seek the negotiations.

At least three writers in the past week on the law on press and publications now being debated in Parliament.

The least that can be said about this draft law is unjust and unfair to the journalists and the Jordanian press, said Mahmoud Al Khatib in Al Ra'i daily.

The writer, who is the paper's chief editor, said the different articles of especially those, 46 and 47, clearly show deputies are prejudiced journalists.

He particularly pointed out Article 44 which lists from publishing about court trials, 46 and 47 which subject journalists to penalties for extra writings for and newspapers outside Jordan without government permission.

Another columnist, Ra'i said that the draft is appalling and can back the deputies themselves they choose to endorse.

Khaled Mahadin, the deputies are passing that forces journalists pose their sources of information at a time when they are adopting and extending democracy.

The writer said that the draftists had hoped that the law would do justice to the lowering years of a lack of democracy, but the new draft seems to be far worse than the old one.

A columnist in Al Ra'i said that Parliament was ignorant of the law and the press and of the press facing Jordanian journalists the course of doing their work.

Monas Shauqat, critic Article 42 of the draft which forces journalists reveal the source of information before court, noting that practice would run counter the spirit of democracy writer said that the draft would be a sword raised the necks of the journalists.

From now on, journalists cannot write about the all the Jordanian society, economy, and so they be encouraging crimes covering up for cases of corruption, the writer said.

The writer added that the deputies are not far from journalists' work, should avoid debating or endorsing it without first getting better knowledge about nature and the mechanism of the press.

Taher Al Udwah critic the 1993 fiscal budget, that it entailed more tax on the Jordanian people. The writer said that the limited groups will be most affected the value added tax, which being imposed as of the year.

He urged the Parliament to examine the various aspects of the budget and to amend it in a manner that would not add to the burden of the poor.

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Palestinians observe massive strike

(Continued from page 1)

and lawyers, but we have not succeeded in getting any information," said Dr. Zahar's son, 13-year-old Khaled.

Some 200 Hamas activists were released from the Al Faraj military lockup in the West Bank Friday, Palestinian reporters said. The army said it was checking the report.

The occupied Gaza Strip was under blanket curfew for the 11th day Friday. Troops also sealed all of the occupied territories for a fifth day, barring all Palestinians

from entering Israel.

Towns and villages in the West Bank were deserted as Palestinians locked themselves in their homes in spontaneous protest. Streets in Arab East Jerusalem, normally crowded with thousands of worshippers streaming towards Al Aqsa Mosque for Friday prayers, were all but empty.

Leaders of the Palestinian uprising have called for "heavy clashes" to protest the expulsions which are unprecedented in their swiftness and scope, but limited to a two-year period.

Israel expels 415 Palestinians

(Continued from page 1)

said he hoped it would stick to its position. He called for Arab moral and financial support.

"We also ask all Arab countries to stand on our side and strengthen our stand and steadfastness," said Mr. Rantisi, who asked all Arab delegations to pull out of Middle East peace talks immediately.

The expelled Palestinians peppered Lebanese reporters with questions about Hizbollah (Party of God) waging guerrilla war on Israeli forces on the Middle East's most explosive frontline.

They said they were impressed by what they saw as Hizbollah's success

despite its defeats such as the killing of its leader Sheikh Abbas Musawi in an Israeli helicopter ambush last year.

Security sources said several Hizbollah members tried to infiltrate into no-man's land to meet the Islamic Jihad and Hamas members but were turned back by Lebanese troops.

Lebanon ordered its troops north of the zone to close their checkpoints and turn back any one. It also called on U.N. peacekeepers inside and north of the 15-kilometre-deep buffer area to refuse them entry.

Lebanese soldiers at the checkpoint said they had ordered to shoot if necessary to stop anyone leaving the zone but they said they would only fire over the heads of the Palestinians.

Peace talks

(Continued from page 1)

expressing greatest frustration, said the expulsion of Palestinians had brought the peace process to a critical point.

Mr. Clinton and the White House separately agreed expulsions could imperil the peace talks.

Mr. Bush, seeking to keep alive the unprecedented negotiations he launched with the Madrid conference in October 1991, hosted separate meetings at the White House with teams representing Israel, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and the Palestinians.

But the sessions were largely symbolic as Mr. Bush — whose major foreign policy accomplishment may be the Mideast peace process — leaves office in a few weeks.

From Little Rock, Arkansas, Mr. Clinton acknowledged the eighth round of negotiations in Washington was ending on a shaky note.

"I share the anger and frustration and outrage of the Israeli people" who are targets of radical groups bent on violence, Mr. Clinton said.

"On the other hand, I am concerned this deportation (by Israel) may go too far and imperil the peace talks... I hope some other avenue can be found," he said.

Appearing to answer critics concerned he may let the talks slide as he focuses on a domestic agenda, Mr. Clinton said: "I will do whatever I can to embrace the talks and keep them going and put the United States behind the peace process."

Although they met with Mr. Bush, Palestinians and Syrians Thursday boycotted 1992's final peace talks with Israel in protest over the expulsions.

"This lethal combination of wilful human rights abuses, and stalemate or lack of progress in negotiations has led to an escalation in violence, has led to further conflict, and has eroded the credibility and the support for the

peace process," Dr. Ashrawi said. "We feel that the peace process now is at a critical stage it has been dealt a very serious and fatal blow, and we feel that there has to be a total reconsideration of the whole process," she told a news conference.

After Mr. Bush's meeting with negotiators, White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater called on Israel to end expulsions because they "risk

complicating the search for peace." He also said Arabs and Israelis must "form a concerted voice calling for an end to all forms of violence."

Mr. Fitzwater said Mr. Bush commended the parties for sticking with the peace process and asserted: "Substantial achievements are within reach if the parties make additional efforts to address the legitimate concerns of their negotiating parties."

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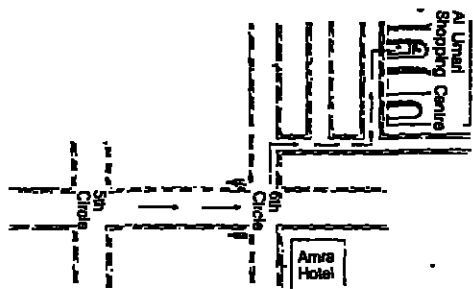
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RESERVATION

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1st Division Basketball Championship

Orthodoxi, Ahli lead standings

By Aileen Bannayan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Al Orthodoxi kept their unyielding form this week as they won their third successive match scoring over the 150 mark when they beat Al Watani 154-73 in the third stage of the First Division Basketball Championship organised by the Jordan Basketball Federation (JBF).

In other matches all-time rivals Al Ahli humiliated last season's third placed Al Jalil, while Al Jazireh beat Homentmen and did not show-up for their first match against Al Watani.

This of course led to Al Watani's advanced standing, as they gained two points, while under international and JBF rules the withdrawing team, Al Jalil, did not get a point. Later on, Al Jazireh's officials decided their team would play, but surprisingly lost by two points to Al Ahli. They are now at the bottom in the overall standings.

In the week's latest matches Al Ahli who are seeking to regain the title they won in 1990, flexed some muscle, beating Al Jalil 86-48, the first half ending 45-17.

In the other match held in Irbid, Al Hussein scored a big win of 110-63 against Al Abbasi, the first half ending 64-28.

Meanwhile two matches were played in Amman at Al Orthodoxi court. In the first match Al Jazireh scored an expected 94-63 win over Homentmen.

The score was close at the beginning as the scoreboard showed a 7-4 lead for Al Jazireh, who took advantage of a series of turnovers and widened their lead to 16-6.

accept certain objections they had raised over their match against Al Ahli in the Under-22 Tournament earlier this month. Consequently Al Jalil initially decided to withdraw from the First Division Championship and did not show-up for their first match against Al Watani.

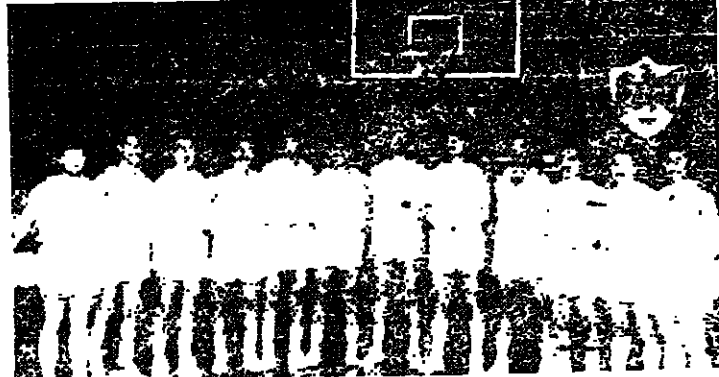
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Al Ahli's team

Homentmen's Sevan Sarkissian scored a three-pointer followed by some fast-breaks by playmaker Robert Chatmajian to narrow the gap at 22-14.

From then on, Al Jazireh's Ghaith Ennabi led his team to widen their lead to 35-20 and 41-24. However Homentmen's Ibrahim Tadros was the star of the day as he secured rebounding for his team — outdoing his much taller opponents Jamal Bubeiri and Khaled Abu Namous — to score for his team. The first half ended 52-31 for Al Jazireh.

Homentmen narrowed the gap at the beginning of the first half as Chatmajian, assisted superbly by Vasken Adjemian, scored seven consecutive points. Nevertheless, Al Jazireh kept their lead by applying a tighter man-to-man defence in their half of the court.

Homentmen's Tadros, Chatmajian, and Basel Janho scored to narrow the gap but Al Jazireh finally won the match 94-63.

In the other match of the evening — attended like most other matches by a sparse crowd of no more than 40, despite the freezing weather inside and outside the basketball court — Al Orthodoxi scored a big win of 154-73 against Al Watani.

Al Orthodoxi scored through Jihad Saliba and Murad Barakat leading 9-0 in the first minute, while Al Watani could not even attempt to score until the second minute.

Al Orthodoxi played a tight man-to-man zone defence, taking advantage of many loose balls to score by three-pointers and fast-breaks and built a commanding lead of 27-4 in the fifth minute! They kept up the pace as Muntaser Abul Tayyeb, Hilal and Murad Barakat and teammates scored to widen the lead to 36-8 and 40-12.

Meanwhile Al Watani's Hani Al Taher scored for his team but Al Orthodoxi won the first half 74-29 and the match 154-73.

In the upcoming matches Sunday, Al Orthodoxi play Al Hussein, and Al Abbasi play Al Jalil at the Yarmouk University court in Irbid, while Al Watani play Al Jazireh and Homentmen play Al Ahli at Al Ahli's court in Amman.

Mavericks earn honour — worst team in NBA

DALLAS (AP) — Rolando Blackman is gone. Jim Jackson hasn't shown up and the joke around town is the Dallas Mavericks might not win as many games as the Dallas Cowboys.

Add it up and you get the worst team in the NBA. The Mavericks have lost 15 of 17 games, even after a victory over the Los Angeles Lakers, and they could get worse before they get better.

Blackman, the team's most reliable player, was traded to the New York Knicks before the season. Holdout No. 1 draft pick Jason Kidd says he won't play for the Mavericks.

That leaves one legitimate NBA player, Derek Harper, and a slew of rookies and minor league refugees.

What they really need is a lot of luck, something that has run dry in recent years, especially with high draft picks.

Their first-round pick in 1989, forward Randy White, has been an NBA bust. He's averaging 14.5 minutes and 5.6 points per game this year.

And 1991 No. 1 pick Doug Smith, averaging 14 points and 4.5 rebounds, has been a disappointment since reporting late and overweight last year.

Jackson, holding out for a six year contract that owner Donald Carter has refused to offer, even sent a message via the Dallas Morning News that he never wants to play in Dallas.

Harper, with a team-leading 19 point average, is left to try and buoy a fast-sinking franchise that could threaten the Philadelphia 76ers' record for futility — nine victories in 1973.

O'Neal outrebounds Sacramento
Shaquille O'Neal had 22 points and 20 rebounds and blocked

seven shots leading the Orlando Magic over the Sacramento Kings, 112-91.

O'Neal out-rebounded Sacramento's starting lineup, 20-19. He helped the Magic dominate the boards 39-39 and sent the Kings to their sixth straight loss.

Nick Anderson added 25 points and Dennis Scott had 17 for the Magic. Orlando made 16 of 22 shots in the first quarter and took a 15-point lead.

Bulls 107, Bullets 99
Michael Jordan missed 17 shots but still managed to score 28 points as the Chicago Bulls broke their three-game road losing streak by beating Washington.

Scottie Pippen had 24 points and 13 rebounds for the Bulls, whose three-game skid on the road was their longest since 1990. Jordan, who entered shooting 51 percent, made only 12 of 29 field goal attempts.

Still, Jordan scored when it counted. After Washington closed to 94-90 midway through the final period, Jordan had a dunk and a layup to give the Bulls an eight-point cushion. Tom Gugliotta had 25 points and 13 rebounds and Michael Adams scored 20 for the Bullets, who have lost five straight.

Drzen Petrovic converted a three point play with one second left and the New Jersey Nets sent Milwaukee to its ninth straight loss.

Milwaukee took a 101-99 lead on Frank Brickowski's basket with 8.6 seconds left. After a timeout, New Jersey's Sam Bowie put up a wild shot from the left baseline but petrovic grabbed the offensive rebound, hit the basket and was fouled by Alvin Robertson.

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HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY DECEMBER 19, 1992

By Thomas S. Plerson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Founder

GENERAL TENDENCIES: As out of town notice or letter from a person whose ideas are markedly different from your own can help you gain some insight into the way you will be able to consider improved set of circumstances your present progress.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 23) Many bits of information as to your attention are by you will be able to consider improved set of circumstances your present progress.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You have considerable resourcefulness and ingenuity by which you will be able to headway with whatever you have made.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 21 to December 21) Take time on recapitulate to your associates things you can do with the harmonious accord that will your dreams come true.

CAPRICORN: (December 21 to January 19) You like to know factors of whatever demands attention at your usual occupation and this is the day when you obvious, can be utilized to gain you.

AQUARIUS: (January 19 to February 19) By considering now-ly what any close companion are from their association, you, you will be able to place make them stronger allies.

PISCES: (February 19 to March 20) This is the moment when necessary you listen carefully what any member of your family has to say as it can indicate way have a greater accord at home.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Your mind is quick and alert to realize the money matter which is the means by which you can make real progress.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Your ideas are reasonable and you can see with dispatch how to put a new course in motion that will make your efforts more fruitful for you.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Your best results today will follow getting off to a start with a confident and taking out private ways and means to enhance your success.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Being in touch with a number of friends outlining what you have in mind of a festive nature can bring them closer to you and also more enjoyable times.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Think over how you can get the good will of one in power by

showing your quick mind and talent and you can help your public image.

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THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



"Maybe I'm just a jealous guy, but I don't like it when Jack Frost nips at your nose!"

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Taylor

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

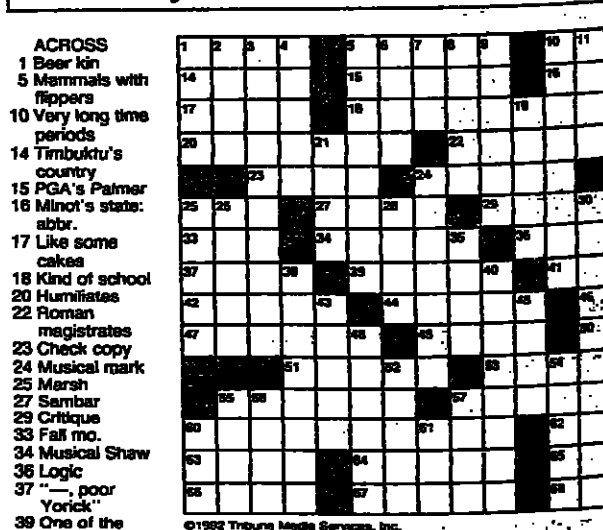
LOCCI
NELIR
WOELLY
SPICHY

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: BY "O O O O - O O O O"

Yesterday's Jumbles: LURID PEONY TYCOON REDUCE
Answer: Where the mathematicians all ate lunch AT THE "COUNTER"

THE Daily Crossword by Wilson McEath



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS
1 Bear kin
5 Mammals with flippers
10 Very long time periods
14 Timbuktu's country
15 PGA's Palmer
16 Minor's state: abbr.
17 Like some cakes
18 Kind of school
20 Humanities
22 Roman magistrates
23 Check copy
24 Musical mark
25 Marsh
27 Samba
29 Critique
33 Fall mo.
34 Musical Shaw
36 Logic
37 " — poor Yorick"
39 One of the Philippines
41 Fast fliers
42 Corday's victim
44 Hi-tech light
45 Asian holiday
47 Fashions
49 Neural network
50 Collection agency?
51 Dental item
53 Justine
55 Receptions
57 Perplex
60 Kind of school
62 Roman road
63 " — a gel in marmoset"
64 Pithy saying
65 Whole
66 Undercover person
67 Lumberman
68 Helper: abbr.
DOWN
1 Surrounded by
2 Alabaster product
3 Kind of school
4 — with (supported)
5 Scolds
6 Maritime birds
7 Black cuckoo
8 — and onions
9 Farm implement
10 Identities
11 Comic strip dog
12 Turner and Cole
13 Wild blue "yonder"
19 Levitator's slave
24 Original
25 Frodo
26 Fanfare
28 List extender
30 School types
31 Chemical compound
32 Rebecca and Nile
33 Naturalness
34 Drool
35 Mail merchant
43 Dogma
45 Confederates, for short
46 Santa's transport
52 In union
54 NY city
55 Trademark
56 Environmentalist
57 Titled lady
58 Score box
59 Author
60 — — —
61 Today

THE AL-HUSSEIN SOCIETY FOR PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

Will continue its annual bazaar on Sunday Dec. 20th, 1992, from 10:00 to 1:00, at Al-Hussein Society, 7th Circle, behind the Royal Automobile Club.

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★ Decoration ★
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Job Opportunity

An international organisation in Amman is seeking a translator — interpreter

According to the following:
Duties:
- Translation of official documents from French and/or English into Arabic and from Arabic into French and/or English.
- Simultaneous interpretation during meetings.
- Presentation of a daily press review.

Qualifications:
- University degree in French and/or English or equivalent.
- Ability to present the organisation in public.
- Knowledge of word processor.
- Open-minded, dynamic, full availability.

Please send your application with CV, copies of certificates, phone number, address and a personal photograph to:

P.O.Box 9058, Amman, Jordan

P.O.Box 9058, Amman, Jordan

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMMAM HIRSH
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TRUST PARTNER
East-West vulnerable. South invitational, not forcing, we endorse North's decision to compete with four spades. There was no guarantee four hearts could be defeated, and the double fit made bidding one more "for luck" attractive.

The defense was smooth. West led the king of hearts and East judged correctly that partner had to have a six-card suit to go as high as four hearts. Since that meant the defense could take only one heart trick, and since West could not know partner had four hearts, East took charge of the defense for the moment by overtaking the king of hearts with the ace.

The only hope for the defense was to take club tricks, so East shifted to the five of clubs. When declarer inserted the ten, most defenders we know would have won the queen, cashed the ace and then tried south-east heart. That would have given declarer 10 easy tricks.

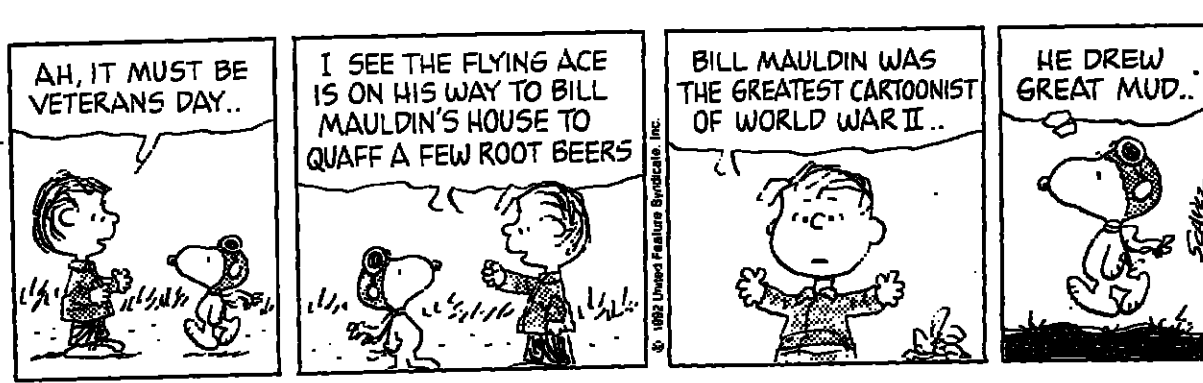
However, West trusted partner not to have led a low club without a high honor, which could only be the king. So West took the first trick with the ace and returned the queen. East dutifully overtook the queen with the king, and a club ruff ended declarer's hopes early.

North's double was negative, i.e., a takeout double with the accent on the unbid major. While North was minimum for this action and South's jump to three spades only

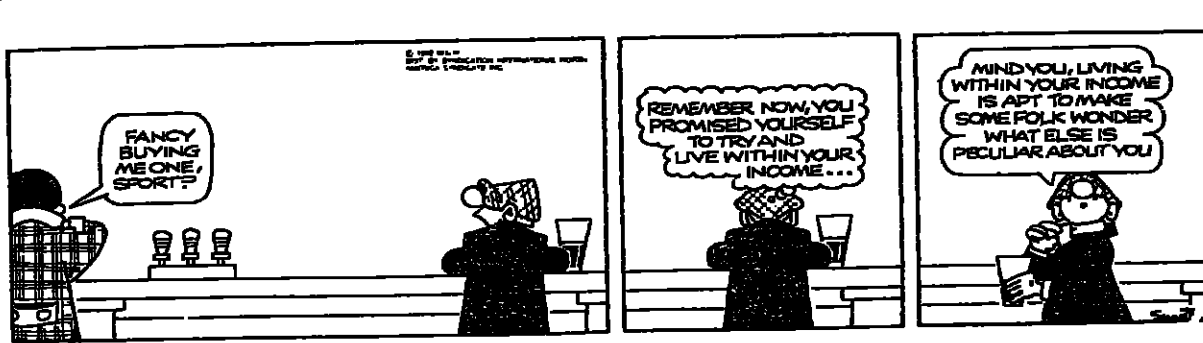
Opening lead: King of ♠
Defense is a partnership affair, and the key is having absolute faith in partner. If your partner is one of those players who simply pulls the card nearest the thumb, stop reading now or start looking for a new partner.

North's double was negative, i.e., a takeout double with the accent on the unbid major. While North was minimum for this action and South's jump to three spades only

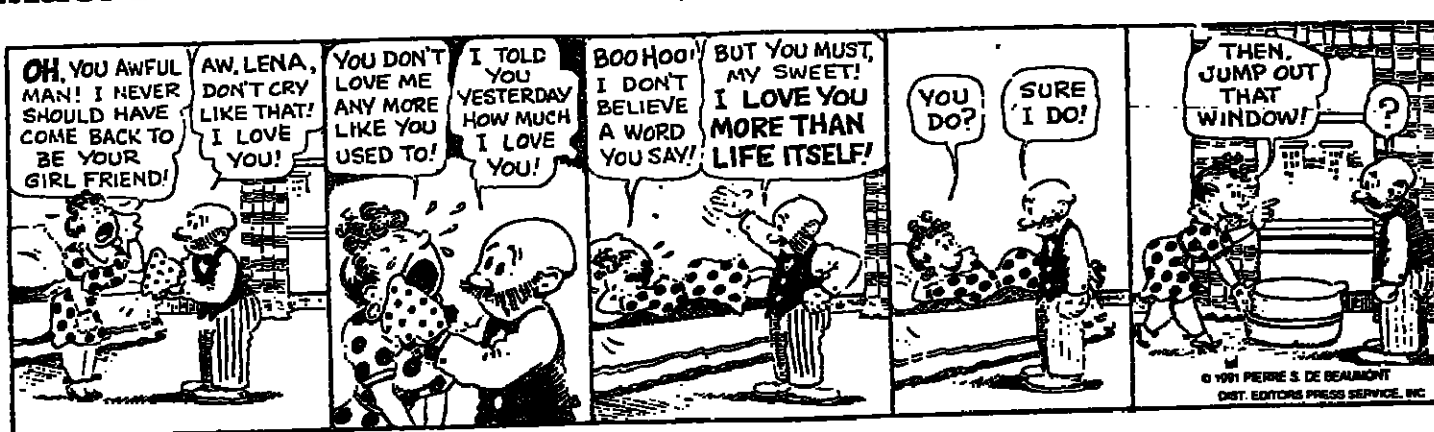
Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff



Economy

Jordan Times
In co-operation with
Cairo Amman Bank

Currency	NEW YORK CLOSE	TOKYO CLOSE
	Date: 16/12/92	Date: 17/12/92
Swiss Franc	1.5750	1.5770
Deutsche Mark	1.5571	1.5560
Swiss Franc	1.3990	1.3975
French Franc	9.3220	9.3160
Japanese Yen	122.98	123.12
European Currency Unit	1.2575	1.2575

Interbank Interest Rates

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	3.50	3.50	3.50	4.00
Sterling Pound	7.62	7.25	7.00	6.62
Deutsche Mark	9.50	9.06	8.62	8.00
Swiss Franc	6.50	6.06	6.06	5.75
French Franc	11.75	11.25	10.00	9.25
Japanese Yen	3.90	3.68	3.62	3.62
European Currency Unit	11.50	11.12	10.50	9.50

Various Metals

Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	337.60	6.55	Silver	3.75	.080

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.686	0.688
Sterling Pound	1.0814	1.0868
Deutsche Mark	0.4407	0.4429
Swiss Franc	0.4904	0.4929
French Franc	0.1290	0.1296
Japanese Yen	0.5563	0.5591
Irish Guineer	0.3919	0.3939
British Crown	0.1006	0.1011
Italian Lira	0.0491	0.0443
Belgian Franc	0.02140	0.02151

Various Currencies

Currency	Bid	Offer
Liberal Dinar	1.7930	1.8100
Liberal Lira	0.03615	0.03825
Liberal Riyal	0.1826	0.1839
Liberal Dinar	0.2020	0.2150
Liberal Riyal	0.1859	0.1869
Liberal Pound	0.2020	0.2150
Liberal Riyal	1.7520	1.7650
Liberal Dinar	0.1859	0.1869
Liberal Drachma	0.3298	0.3398
Liberal Pound	1.4680	1.4880

30 Indices for Amman Financial Market

Index	15/12/92	Close	16/12/92	Close
All Share	167.93		167.74	
Banking Sector	720.67		720.80	
Insurance Sector	182.96		183.26	
Industry Sector	230.24		229.61	
Services Sector	240.14		239.15	

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

Following are the buying and selling rates for foreign currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession in the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Friday. Bid rates will differ from those quoted:

Currency	15/12/92	16/12/92
U.S. dollar	1.2731/36	1.2731/36
Canadian dollar	1.5625/45	1.5625/45
Deutsche marks	1.7600/10	1.7600/10
Dutch guilders	1.4058/68	1.4058/68
Swiss francs	32.17/22	32.17/22
Belgian francs	1.7600/10	1.7600/10
French francs	1406/1410	1406/1410
Italian lire	123.07/12	123.07/12
Japanese yen	7.0000/100	7.0000/100
Swedish crowns	6.7300/400	6.7300/400
Norwegian crowns	6.0450/550	6.0450/550
Danish crowns	1.5688/98	1.5688/98
sterling	3337.10/337.60	3337.10/337.60

Yugoslav embargo costs Bulgaria \$1.2 billion

SOFIA (R) — United Nations sanctions against rump Yugoslavia have cost Bulgaria more than \$1.2 billion so far this year and if they go on could cost \$3 billion in 1993, a government spokesman has said.

"In a letter to the U.N. Security Council Bulgaria said it would suffer damage of more than \$1.2 billion this year because of the strict observance of the sanctions mainly against Serbia," spokeswoman Nadezhda Mikhailova told Reuters.

The losses include \$690 million for industry, \$355 million for trade and \$70 million for transport. Power production and tourism are also affected.

The losses do not include those caused by aborted financial transactions, and worsened telecommunications links between Bulgaria and the rest of the world. Bulgaria's only passage to western Europe is via Yugoslavia.

Ms. Mikhailova noted Bulgaria, which is burdened by \$12 billion of foreign debt accumulated under communist rule, had already lost more than \$2 billion from U.N. sanctions against Iraq and Libya.

"And we never received a single penny in compensation," she added.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

HOUSING RATE CENTER AMMAN - JORDANIAN

TELEPHONE: 440170 / 442170

ORGANIZED MARKET TRADING ACTIVITY FOR THE PERIOD (12/12/1992 - 16/12/1992)

COMPANY'S NAME	TRADING VOLUME	PREV. CLOSING PRICE	OFFERING CLOSING PRICE
JORDAN ISLAMIC BANK	46,421	3,800	3,700
JORDAN EXCHANGE BANK	195,497	2,490	2,500
THE JORDANIAN BANK	384,253	3,580	3,610
ARAB JORDAN INVESTMENT BANK	7,960	3,180	3,200
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK	1,244,782	3,140	3,140
ORION BANK FOR SAVING & INVESTMENT	139,231	2,610	2,610
ARAB BANKING CORPORATION/JORDAN	195,952	3,180	3,180
JORDAN NATIONAL BANK	633,944	4,140	4,140
JORDAN INVESTMENT & TRADING BANK	3,224	4,800	4,800
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT/SAVING	1,183,127	1,870	1,870
REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT	176,056	1,800	1,810
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO SECURITIES BUSINESS BANK	297,130	4,200	4,190
NETT EXCEL SAVINGS/INVESTMENT FOR HOUSING	45,638	3,200	3,240
JORDAN EXCHANGE	172,830	5,580	5,550
CAIRO AMMAN BANK	33,700	0,000	0,120
ARAB BANK	309,645	119,000	119,000
ATLANTIC EXCHANGE	425	2,280	2,290
AL-FARAH AL-AMMANI INSURANCE	594	4,770	4,750
JORDAN INSURANCE	13,160	3,100	3,100
GLOBAL AMMAN INSURANCE	40,720	3,200	3,200
JORDAN EXCHANGE	18,610	3,500	3,500
UNITED INSURANCE	1,625	3,150	3,250
JORDAN EXCHANGE	264,718	3,380	3,380
YAMMOUQ INSURANCE & REINSURANCE	537,225	2,750	2,850
AMMAN EXCHANGE	28,412	2,720	2,650
UNIVERSAL INSURANCE	112	3,340	0,000
ARAB LIFE & ACCIDENT INSURANCE	160,395	3,140	3,130
PHILADELPHIA INSURANCE	3,400	3,450	3,400
ARAB EXCHANGE	2,950	2,750	2,750
JORDAN EXCHANGE	6,563	4,980	5,500
JORDANIAN EXCHANGE	154,213	1,490	1,440
ARAB INTERNATIONAL BANK	76,696	6,050	6,050
LIVERPOOL & LONDON	133,922	1,240	1,240
JORDAN EXCHANGE	13,060	3,320	3,320
UNITED EXCHANGE	1,326,051	3,250	3,250
JORDAN EXCHANGE	57,997	0,590	0,620
MAJMAH EXCHANGE	205,169	3,000	3,000
FEDERAL EXCHANGE	92,910	1,240	1,220
JORDAN EXCHANGE	128,612	0,320	0,310
JORDAN EXCHANGE	1,553	1,420	1,420
JORDAN EXCHANGE	11,900	5,470	5,590
JORDAN EXCHANGE	807,051	1,920	1,780
ARAB EXCHANGE	489,347	1,700	1,780
JORDAN EXCHANGE	3,548	2,420	2,580
ARAB EXCHANGE	1,844,517	10,830	10,550
ARAB EXCHANGE	348,649	6,890	6,830
THE INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL & AGRICULTURAL	364,159	4,240	4,200
ARAB EXCHANGE	364,798	22,100	22,500
NATIONAL EXCHANGE	376,283	5,850	5,980
ARAB EXCHANGE	883,642	5,800	5,800
ARAB EXCHANGE	119,360	4,020	3,870
THE JORDAN EXCHANGE	274,615	10,900	11,050
JORDAN EXCHANGE	34,226	6,300	6,150
JORDAN EXCHANGE	820,240	0,920	0,930
JORDAN EXCHANGE	33,495	4,350	4,350
JORDAN EXCHANGE	9,475	4,300	4,300
THE JORDAN EXCHANGE	56,247	3,500	3,520
JORDAN EXCHANGE	2,408	4,500	4,500
ARAB EXCHANGE	1,049,012	4,320	4,310
NATIONAL EXCHANGE	238,064	1,040	1,040
UNIVERSAL EXCHANGE	361,609	13,300	13,490
ARAB EXCHANGE	43,000	4,350	4,300
SAPIA EXCHANGE	16,440	3,200	3,200
WOLFE EXCHANGE	53,066	2,580	2,550
JORDAN EXCHANGE	219,915	1,340	1,340
SPRINGING & SEAVING	373,492	3,210	3,250
JORDAN EXCHANGE	10,180	3,700	3,660
NATIONAL EXCHANGE	369,643	6,750	6,700
JORDAN EXCHANGE	389,905	6,080	6,080
THE JORDAN EXCHANGE	851,344	1,700	1,680
JORDAN EXCHANGE	154,764	2,480	2,470
JORDAN EXCHANGE	60	5,100	0,000
JORDAN EXCHANGE	804,214	0,610	0,610
UNIVERSAL EXCHANGE	1,122,814	5,790	5,790
ARAB EXCHANGE	384,806	3,120	3,100
JORDAN EXCHANGE	66,553	28,500	27,500
JORDAN EXCHANGE	37,010	8,600	8,550
THE ARAB EXCHANGE	2,646	21,000	22,550
GRAND TOTAL	22,367,517		

U.S., Mexican and Canadian leaders sign free trade pact

WASHINGTON (R) — President George Bush and leaders in Mexico and Canada Thursday signed a controversial free trade accord but faces will spur growth but foes say will cost hundreds of thousands of American jobs.

The pact is sure to win approval by lawmakers in Mexico and Canada, but in the U.S. Congress it faces tough opposition, especially from organized labour and environmentalists.

President Bush said: "The peace and friendship we've long enjoyed as neighbours will now be strengthened by the explosion in growth and trade let loose by the combined energy of our 360 million citizens trading freely across our border."

He spoke at a ceremony at the Organisation of American States headquarters at about the time the treaty was signed by President Carlos Salinas in Mexico City.

In Ottawa, protesters broke into the signing by Prime Minister

Brian Mulroney in Canada's parliament.

They protested at what they derided as a "sell-out" to the United States and charged the pact would cost Canadian jobs. But observers said Mr. Mulroney, with a 10-seat majority in the House of Commons, would have little trouble winning approval of the accord.

U.S. President-elect Bill Clinton reaffirmed his general support of the pact but, like some of its foes, said side agreements should be written to protect jobs, and the environment as well as U.S. industries against sudden surges of imports.

Mr. Clinton said he looked forward to early meetings with Mr. Salinas and Mr. Mulroney to discuss the accord, reached after 14 months of negotiations.

Opponents say it will cost hundreds of thousands of U.S. jobs as factories close and move across the Rio Grande to take advantage of Mexico's low wages and lax enforcement of clean air and water laws.

A coalition of labour, environmental, farm and health groups said Wednesday they would step up their opposition to the agreement. They plan a series of television spots and newspaper commercials lobbying lawmakers. Black civil rights leader Jesse Jackson said he would lead demonstrations at abandoned U.S. factory sites and along the Rio Grande, already polluted by industry.

Senator Max Baucus, a Democrat and leader in foreign trade legislation, said in a statement that he backed NAFTA's commercial provisions but, like Mr. Clinton, said worker adjustment and environmental concerns had to be addressed first. He advised Mr. Clinton not to send the agreement to Congress until those concerns had been resolved.

Mr. Bush said he believed the

Israel approves plan to save military industries

TEL AVIV (R) — The Israeli cabinet has approved a \$290 million restructuring plan that will slash a third of the jobs at state-owned Israel Military Industries (IMI) Finance Minister Abraham Shohat said.

Hit by shrinking markets and high operating costs, IMI last year lost \$239 million, more than the combined earnings of all other state-run companies.

"I am completely satisfied with this plan," Mr. Shohat told Reuters. "I believe this is a realistic programme and a real solution for IMI."

Under the plan, one third of IMI's 7,500 workers would be made redundant, on top of 2,500 already gone. The company would negotiate wage cuts for the rest and sell off factories and land.

IMI Director-General Gadi Komissar said the government will invest \$150 million to fund the recovery, in addition to \$140 million in severance pay for IMI workers.

State budget director David Brodet told reporters Tuesday salaries paid IMI technicians were up to 76 per cent higher than those in non-military high-tech industries.

IMI, founded as a weapons and ammunition manufacturing arm of the defence ministry, was converted into a state company in November, 1990, to allow it to seek investment capital.

Mr. Shohat said he believed the plan would be implemented as approved, but added: "There must still be negotiations between the workers and management, because there remains some misunderstanding between them, to say the least."

Slump in sales hits European car industry giants

LONDON (R) — Recession and a slump in car sales are hitting the traditional giants of the car industry in Europe, biting into profits and threatening thousands of jobs.

On Wednesday, U.S. car maker Ford announced more than 2,600 job cuts in Europe, while German companies Daimler-Benz, Volkswagen (V.W.) and MAN issued gloomy statements on the outlook for the German car industry.

"We are entering a crisis," Dieter Ullsperger, V.W.'s head of finance, told reporters.

But as the traditional big names adjust to tumbling profits and falling demand by scaling back production, Japanese-owned "transplants" in Britain plan to increase output next year.

Ironically, within hours of Ford's announcement, Toyota started production at a new plant in Burnaston, central England, aiming to make some 35,000 cars in its first year.

Europe's car makers face a host of problems even before they confront competition from Japanese "transplants" — factories set up in Europe to get around European Community (EC) import quotas.

The big problem is an international slump in sales as consumers, worried about recession, put off buying new cars.

Germany's car makers, saddled with some of the highest costs in the world, have to contend with an unexpectedly sharp slowdown in the economy which has choked domestic demand.

"The German economy burst like a soap bubble," Daimler Management Board Chairman Edzard Reuter told reporters.

The devaluation of many European currencies against the mark has also made German exports more expensive. On top of that, high German interest rates have sent car firms scurrying to cut costs and put workers on shorter shifts.

In Wolfsburg, V.W.'s Ullsperger predicted a 20 per cent shrinkage in the German car market next year and said V.W.'s production would be curbed by 80,000 vehicles. He also said V.W.'s net profit this year would be considerably below last year's 1.11 billion marks (\$712.4 million).

V.W. has trimmed its domestic workforce by around 5,000 this year as part of a planned reduction of 12,500 by the end of 1994. Further cuts are possible if demand weakens.

Daimler-Benz, Germany's biggest car company, also warned Wednesday of falling 1993 profits as business weakened in its Mercedes-Benz automotive division. Mercedes-Benz intends to cut its domestic workforce by 12,500 by the end of 1992 and

Ramos sees Philippines growing painfully

MANTLA (R) — President Fidel Ramos has said Monday the Philippines faced hardships in opening up its economy to achieve growth but "there is no gain without any pain."

He told economists that deregulation of foreign exchange transactions and imports, privatisation of state corporations, and paying debts would entail short-term difficulties, but were the only choice the country had.

"Opening the economy will obviously be difficult in the short term. But in this world there is no gain without pain," he told a meeting of the Philippine Economic Society.

"In the wake of communism's collapse, competition in the world is shifting from the military and the political to business and trade," he pointed out.

Mr. Ramos lifted all major restrictions on foreign exchange in August, paving the way for an inflow of dollars from Filipino workers overseas that pushed up the peso's value and hurt exporters' business.

Exporters have demanded bolder central bank action to intervene in the market to push the peso down, but the government has rejected a devaluation.

Mr. Ramos said banks were instead asked to offer exporters lower-interest loans to help them cope.

"I would say the leaders in the export sector are...reconciled to the fact that we have to go through these short painful processes so that in the end we can truly be competitive in the world market," he told a news conference following his speech.

Central bank figures show the inflow of dollars boosted its gross international reserves to near record levels of \$5.1 billion in November, which enabled the government to put \$4.1 billion in high-yielding investments abroad.

The economy would have declined in the first nine months if not for the workers' remittances, which pushed gross national product up a minimal 0.91 per cent.

"We are on track in so far as the overall (economic) programme is concerned," Mr. Ramos said. "We must deregulate and decontrol as much as possible."

He said cutting repayments of debt, as some legislators proposed, was not an alternative.

Mr. Ramos said his government was dismantling monopolies left over from the dictatorship of Ferdinand Marcos and freeing business enterprises, along with speeding up the sale of government corporations.

S. Africa says disinvestment surge curbed

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South African Finance Minister Derek Keys has said foreign investors withdrew two billion rand (\$715 million) in the second quarter of 1992 because of political instability but the outflow had since been curbed.

Capital flight jumped from "nil" in the first quarter to two billion rand in the second when multi-party democracy talks broke down and black opposition groups launched a campaign of mass demonstrations for faster political reform, he said.

"The process of disinvesting has stopped but the process of investing has not yet started," Mr. Keys told a news conference.

The Reserve (central) Bank said in its June 1992 quarterly review that net withdrawal of foreign funds had subsided considerably over the past two years.

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